October 2, 2008

Dear Contractor:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is in the process of establishing its overall goal for its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals for the participation of DBEs in highway, transit, and airport construction projects for Federal Fiscal Year 2009 (FFY '09).

As a part of the goal-setting process, IDOT is required to have public input. We have scheduled two round table meetings around the state to gather information and individual testimonials to help IDOT in establishing the DBE goal for FFY '09.

The type of information sought from participants at these meetings will include:

1) individual experiences regarding past and current discriminatory practices that place racial and ethnic minorities and women in a position of social and economic disadvantage in successfully participating in IDOT contracts, 2) input on the DBE program's operations, and 3) input on IDOT's DBE goal process.

Date: Oct. 16, 2008

City: East St. Louis

Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm Metro-East DBE Resource Center

225 North 9th Street

East St. Louis, IL 62201

Date: Oct. 20, 2008

City: Chicago

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm DBE Resource Center

900 South Des Plaines Street

Chicago, IL 60607

Your input is critically needed. You are encouraged to bring written statements. If you wish to attend the East St. Louis meeting, please contact Lee Coleman at (618) 346-3360 or by email at Lee.Coleman@illinois.gov. If you wish to attend the Chicago meeting, please contact Henry Gray at (847) 705-4464 or by email at Henry.Gray@illinois.gov. Persons with a disability or limited English proficiency who plan to attend this meeting should contact the above representative at the respective location to advise of planned attendance. The meeting rooms will be accessible to persons with a disability.

Sincerely,

Stanley S. Moore Acting Director

Office of Business & Workforce Diversity